

How to Keep the Lights on and the Hearth Warm

Below are some tips for Montanans who are concerned about paying their energy bills.

- Call your utility and ask if the utility will conduct an energy audit.
- Contact the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) in your area for assistance with bills and weatherization. (Eligibility is subject to income criteria.) A listing of HRDC's is available on this website: <http://psc.mt.gov/pdf/UtilityRules03012001.pdf> or contact Energy Share at 1-800-777-7589.
- Read the *Montana Energy Savers Guidebook* and use the checklist provided to identify energy-saving opportunities. View the guidebook online at <http://www.deq.mt.gov/energy/EnergySaverBk.pdf> or request a copy from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (406) 444-6697.
- Certain energy efficiency improvements qualify for the Montana Energy Conservation Tax Credit. Go to <http://www.deq.mt.gov/energy/EEHome/TaxIncentHome.asp> for more information or call (406) 444-6697.
- Montanans who are not eligible for free energy audits or weatherization programs can hire an insulation contractor.
- For information on purchasing an energy efficient appliance, go to the Energy Star website: <http://www.energystar.gov>.